

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-03 L-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DODE-00 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /036 W

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R 061133Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9074

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CENTO

SUBJECT: FIRST MEETING OF GROUP OF EXPERTS ON CENTO
SECRETARIAT REORGANIZATION

REF: ANKARA AIRGRAM 29, FEBRUARY 25, 1975

1. THE GROUP OF EXPERTS ON CENTO SECRETARIAT REORGANIZATION,
COMPOSED OF MEMBER COUNTRIES' DELEGATES ON THE CENTO BUDGET
AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE, HELD ITS FIRST MEETING MAY 5.
PRINCIPAL RESULT OF THE MEETING WAS A DECISION TO CONSIDER PROPOSALS
FOR AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONS FROM THE IRANIAN AND UK DELEGATES
TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE REORGANIZATION OF THE CENTO
SECRETARIAT CONTAINED IN CENTO DOCUMENT CD/74/D24, NOVEMBER 11,
1974. THE COMBINED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE TERMS OF REFERENCE
WOULD THEN BE SUBMITTED TO THE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS FOR APPROVAL
BEFORE THE GROUP OF EXPERTS STARTS ACTUAL WORK.

2. THE TURKISH DELEGATE, WHILE EMPHASIZING THE URGENCY OF
GETTING ON WITH THE WORK OF REORGANIZATION, STATED THAT THE
TURKISH GOVERNMENT COULD BE EXPECTED TO BRING UP AT THE
CENTO MINISTERIAL MEETING THE SITUATION OF THE CENTO
AUXILIARY STAFF. (THE TURKISH POSITION PAPER ON THIS SUBJECT
WAS FORWARDED TO THE DEPARTMENT AS AN ATTACHMENT TO REF AIRGRAM.)
THE TURKISH DELEGATE COULD NOT SAY SPECIFICALLY WHAT FORM
THE TURKISH PROPOSAL WOULD TAKE AT THE MINISTERIAL MEETING,
BUT COMMENTED THAT THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS
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THAT THE SITUATION OF THE AUXILIARY STAFF HAS PASSED INTO A

CRITICAL STAGE REQUIRING PROMPT ACTION. THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT, SHE SAID, WILL POSSIBLY PROPOSE THAT THE REQUESTS MADE IN ITS POSITION PAPER BE GRANTED SEPARATELY BEFORE THE GROUP OF EXPERTS UNDERTAKES ITS STUDY OF THE RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE ENTIRE SECRETARIAT STRUCTURE, WHICH WILL PROBABLY TAKE SOME MONTHS. THE FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE SECRETARIAT REORGANIZATION COULD THEN BE APPLIED TO THE AUXILIARY STAFF WHEN THEY ARE LATER IMPLEMENTED. (THE IN-FORMAL OPINION OF THE IRANIAN AND PAKISTANI MEMBERS OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS IS THAT THE AUXILIARY STAFF IS SEEKING TOO MANY PREREQUISITES. THE UK MEMBER FEELS THAT THE AUXILIARY STAFF COULD BE ACCORDED RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES EQUAL TO LOCAL EMPLOYEES OF CENTO EMBASSIES IN ANKARA, BUT THAT GIVING THEM THE SAME STATUS AS LOCAL EMPLOYEES OF NATO HEADQUARTERS IS EXCESSIVE.)

3. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF, IN TIME FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS ON MAY 13, THE DEPARTMENT COULD PROVIDE THE EMBASSY ITS VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT AND AN EXPLANATION OF THE SPECIAL PRIVILEGES ENJOYED BY THE NATO AUXILIARY STAFF.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: woolfhd
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ANKARA03531
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750158-0430
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750575/aaaacqlv.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 ANKARA AIRGRAM 29, 75 FEBRUARY 25, 75 1975
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: woolfhd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 AUG 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <10 DEC 2003 by woolfhd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FIRST MEETING OF GROUP OF EXPERTS ON CENTO SECRETARIAT REORGANIZATION
TAGS: AORG, CENTO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006